

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes a change to Fig. 8. The label “PRIOR ART” has been added to this figure. This sheet, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 8.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the careful consideration given the present application. The application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action, and amended as necessary to more clearly and particularly describe the claimed subject matter.

Claims 14-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,434,718 to Kawahara et al. (hereinafter "Kawahara") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,925,146 to Murata et al. (hereinafter "Murata"). For the following reasons the rejection is respectfully traversed and reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

As the Examiner acknowledges, Kawahara does not teach or suggest "in each of the plurality of compressed frame data that is compressed by way of a sub-band ADPCM mode, halting the process of the application of a scale factor during ADPCM decoding per sub-band in the presence of an unrecoverable transmission error in said audio compressed frame data" as required by claim 1. Therefore, Murata is cited for teaching these limitations. For the following reasons, Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Murata teaches that when an error is detected, the ADPCM decoder is rendered inactive during the error detected period. Thus, when the ADPCM coding is resumed, noise generated from the discontinuity in the ADPCM codes at the transition to an error detected state can be reduced (see column 11, lines 22-40). Further, according to Murata, at a transition from the error detected state to a error nondetected state, the high speed scale factor is substituted with a different scale factor in order to further suppress noise generation arising from discontinuity in the ADPCM codes at recommencing the process (see column 18, lines 55-64). However, at no time does Murata teach or suggest "halting the process of the application of a scale factor *during* ADPCM decoding per sub-band in the presence of an unrecoverable transmission error in said audio compressed frame data," as required by claim 14.

As set forth above, Murata does teach halting the ADPCM decoding process when an error is detected. Murata also teaches substituting a different scale factor after the ADPCM decoding resumes. But, Murata does not teach *halting* the application of a scale factor *during* the

ADPCM decoding. Instead, Murata continues to apply a scale factor, but with a different value. Therefore, the process taught by Murata is different from the presently claimed method.

Further, there is nothing in the teachings of Murata that would suggest or otherwise render obvious halting the application of scale factor instead of substituting a different scale factor as taught by Murata. Therefore, even if the teachings of Kawahara and Murata were combined, claim 14 is not rendered obvious by the resulting combination since every limitation would not be taught or suggested as required. Further, since claims 15 and 16 depend from claim 14, they are noobvious over the cited references for the same reasons.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 35848.

Respectfully submitted,

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